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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/853,823	05/11/2001	David Long	50277-1561	6447

29989 7590 09/24/2004 *

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EXAMINER

ALI, SYED J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2127

DATE MAILED: 09/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/853,823

Applicant(s)

LONG ET AL.

Examiner

Syed J Ali

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 May 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 May 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) *
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-18 are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. **Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rich et al. (USPN 6,457,065) (hereinafter Rich).**

4. As per claim 1, Rich teaches the invention as claimed, including a method for performing operations in an electronic file system, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a command to perform one or more file system operations (col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 18);

in response to said command, performing a plurality of operations including said one or more file system operations (col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 18);

wherein the step of performing the plurality of operations includes:

performing a first subset of said plurality of operations as part of a first transaction (col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 18; col. 8 line 63 - col. 9 line 40); and

performing a second subset of said plurality of operations as part of a second transaction that is nested in said first transaction (col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 18; col. 8 line 63 - col. 9 line 40).

5. As per claim 2, Rich teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 1 wherein the step of performing the plurality of operations further includes the step of performing a third subset of said plurality of operations as part of a third transaction that is nested in said second transaction (col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 18; col. 8 line 63 - col. 9 line 40).

6. As per claim 3, Rich teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 1 wherein the second subset of operations are operations that are triggered by an operation that belongs to said first subset of operations (col. 8 line 63 - col. 9 line 40; col. 10 line 42 - col. 11 line 14).

7. As per claim 4, Rich teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 1 wherein:

the step of receiving the command is performed by an entity that resides external to a database server (col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 18; col. 11 lines 21-35); and

the step of performing said plurality of operations includes said entity sending database commands to said database server (col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 18; col. 11 lines 21-35).

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8. As per claim 5, Rich teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 4 wherein the step of performing said second subset includes:

the entity sending to the database server a savepoint command for the database server to establish a savepoint (col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 18; col. 11 lines 49-67; col. 12 lines 27-41); and

after the entity sends to the database server a savepoint command, the entity sending to the database server commands for performing said second subset of said plurality of operations (col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 18; col. 11 lines 49-67; col. 12 lines 27-41).

9. As per claim 6, Rich teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 5 further comprising the entity responding to a failure of an operation in said second subset by sending to the database server a command to roll back to said savepoint (col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 18; col. 11 lines 49-67; col. 12 lines 27-41).

10. As per claim 7, Rich teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 4 further comprising the entity maintaining a transaction list by performing the steps of:

adding an entry to the tail of the transaction list when the entity sends a savepoint command to the database server to start a nested transaction (col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 18; col. 11 lines 49-67; col. 12 lines 27-41); and

when an operation fails, determining the savepoint to roll back to based on the entry at the tail of the transaction list (col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 18; col. 11 lines 49-67; col. 12 lines 27-41); and

removing the entry from the tail of the transaction list when the nested transaction fails or completes successfully (col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 18; col. 11 lines 49-67; col. 12 lines 27-41).

11. As per claim 8, Rich teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 3 wherein:

the one or more file system operations include an operation on a folder (col. 9 line 41 - col. 10 line 41); and

the second subset of operations includes operations associated with one or more documents within the folder (col. 9 line 41 - col. 10 line 41).

12. As per claim 9, Rich teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 4 further comprising the steps of:

the entity determining whether all operations that are to be performed as a nested transaction are read only (col. 13 lines 4-28; col. 15 lines 1-46; col. 16 line 56 - col. 17 line 3);

if all operations that are to be performed as the nested transaction are read only, then sending commands to perform the operations without first sending a command to establish a savepoint (col. 13 lines 4-28; col. 15 lines 1-46; col. 16 line 56 - col. 17 line 3); and

if all operations that are to be performed as the nested transaction are not read only, then sending a command to establish a savepoint prior to sending commands to perform the operations (col. 13 lines 4-28; col. 15 lines 1-46; col. 16 line 56 - col. 17 line 3).

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13. As per claims 10-18, Rich teaches the invention as claimed, including a computer-readable medium carrying instructions for performing the method of claims 1-9, respectively (col. 5 lines 28-58).

Conclusion

14. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Kanai et al. (USPN 5,778,179) teaches a distributed processing system that nests transactions in combination with a method of commit processing for transactions that are unable to execute their transaction.

Cobb et al. (USPN 5,956,506) teaches a method of commit processing using nested transactions.

Fuller (USPN 6,021,414) teaches nested transactions, wherein the creation of child transactions are triggered by operations in the parent transaction.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Syed J Ali whose telephone number is (571) 272-3769. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8-5:30, 2nd Friday off.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng-Ai T An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Syed Ali
September 15, 2004



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